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NOTES AND BRIEF ARTICLES

[Unsigned notes are by the editor]

Mr. W. S. Fields, formerly with the Bureau of Plant Industry in Mississippi as extension pathologist, has been appointed pathological inspector for the Federal Horticultural Board, and is at Washington, D. C.

Mr. G. F. Gravatt has returned to his position as assistant pathologist in the Bureau of Plant Industry, having recently been discharged from the Navy. He will work on the white pine blister rust and the chestnut bark disease.

Mr. A. H. Gilbert has entered the joint employ of the Vermont State Department of Agriculture and the Agricultural Experiment Station, with headquarters at Burlington. Until lately he held the position of extension pathologist for the Bureau of Plant Industry in Vermont.

Mr. A. C. Foster, formerly with the North Carolina Agricultural College as assistant in plant pathology, has been released from military service and has accepted a position at the Wisconsin Agricultural Experiment Station, Madison, Wisconsin, to investigate cucumber diseases.

Mr. W. A. McCubbin, formerly in charge of the Dominion Laboratory of Plant Pathology at St. Catherines, Ontario, has become deputy director of plant industry for the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture at Harrisburg. He is located temporarily at Freeland, where he is assisting in the administration of quarantine regulations for restricting the spread of the potato wart disease.

A disease of Carolina poplar seedlings due to *Pleococcum populinum* is discussed by A. Bertin in *Vie Agr. et Rurale,* p. 292. 1918. The fungus enters readily through wounds, and may be controlled by spraying the young trees with Bordeaux mixture.

Citrus canker is reported by E. M. Doidge to occur in several places in South Africa, having been introduced from Japan on *Citrus trifoliata* stock. This most serious of citrus diseases has also appeared in Australia, the Philippines, and the Southern United States.

A popular sketch of the life and work of Elam Bartholomew appeared in the *American Magazine* for November, 1919, contributed by E. F. Tinker. A good photograph of Mr. Bartholomew, as he now appears at the age of sixty-six, accompanies the article.

The common field mushroom, *Agaricus campester,* was notably scarce last season in the vicinity of New York, doubtless owing to the unusually rainy weather. Did the mycelium fail to develop or did it develop so copiously that it failed to fruit? Were light and heat major or minor factors? It must be remembered that fungous mycelium requires oxygen just as any other growing plant.

A specimen of the rare *Anthurus borealis* Burt was brought in by Mr. Boynton on October 31, 1919, from the Gladiolus bed in the Garden grounds, where the students of the Garden School discovered it. This interesting stinkhorn is divided at the top into six narrow, hollow arms. It was first brought to our attention in May, 1911, by Dr. F. M. Bauer, who found it growing in quantity in mushroom beds on Blackwell's Island. So far as known, Mr. Boynton's specimen is the first ever collected within the New York Botanical Garden.

Gum formation in its relation to Cankers is discussed by Higgins in Bulletin 127 of the Georgia Experiment Station. The author carried on a series of experiments in the artificial production of gummosis under partially controlled conditions and found that gum formation, although affected to some extent by variations in temperature, moisture, etc., is not dependent upon or always associated with growth activity. This behavior, together with the fact that a pectin-dissolving enzym is always found in freshly exuded gum, is held to indicate that gum formation is brought about by enzym activity.

A parasite of the tree fern, *Cyathea arborea,* causing black spots on the fronds, is described and handsomely illustrated by Stevens and Dalbey in *The Botanical Gazette* for September, 1919, under the name *Griggsia cyathea.* The genus as well as the species is new and belongs in the Dothidiales.

A long and abundantly illustrated article on the development of *Pluteus admirabilis* and *Tubaria furfuracea,* by Leva B. Walker, appeared in *The Botanical Gazette* for July, 1919. The material was collected at Ithaca and in the Adirondacks, and the investigation conducted at Cornell during the summers of 1916 and 1917 under the direction of Professor Atkinson.

Dr. E. P. Meinecke, of the Bureau of Forest Pathology in San Francisco, visited the Garden on December 22 to consult the mycological herbarium. He was especially interested in a specimen of *Peridermium* in the Ellis Collection, which was sent to Ellis many years ago from California by Harkness.

The influence of soil environment on root rot of tobacco caused by *Thielavia basicola* is discussed by Johnson and Hartman in the second number of the *Journal of Agricultural Research* for 1919. Saturated soils are favorable to the disease, but its occurrence is determined primarily by the soil temperature, the optimum ranging from 17 to 23° C. Acid fertilizers will not reduce infection, and fertilizers applied to heavily infested soils are largely wasted.

An excellent sketch of the life and work of Dr. Howard A. Kelly, of Baltimore, contributed by Dr. Thomas S. Cullen, with a bibliography of 485 titles prepared by Miss M. W. Blogg, appeared in *The Johns Hopkins Hospital Bulletin* for October, 1919. As Dr. Kelly is only about sixty and appears very much younger, we may expect many additions to his extended bibliography before it is ready for final binding.

An interesting and helpful bulletin by Jones, Miller, and Bailey on frost necrosis of potato tubers appeared in October, 1919, from the Wisconsin Agricultural Experiment Station. This injury is due not to solid freezing, after which the tubers collapse upon thawing, but to partial freezing that does not affect the tubers externally. When cut open, however, characteristic discolorations appear, which might easily be attributed by the uninitiated to the attack of some fungus.

Those interested in mosaic diseases, which are quite in the public eye at this time, will welcome an article by Schultz and others in the *Journal of Agricultural Research* for September 15, 1919, dealing with potato mosaic. The article was read in manuscript at the conference of potato pathologists on Long Island last June. There are several illustrations, some of which are in natural colors.

"The Farmers' Dictionary and Household Cyclopedia," by the late Dr. George Thomas Surface, formerly on the Yale University Staff, has just been published in a limited edition by the author's father, Rev. F. D. Surface, of Blacksburg, Virginia. It is a handbook of 730 pages with up-to-date information on practical farming and domestic science arranged in alphabetical order for the use of farmers and their wives. As the facts are mostly taken from agricultural publications, a copy of this work would no doubt prove very valuable and handy in any agricultural experiment station. It is splendidly written, well printed, and costs little.

A fresh young specimen of *Ganoderma sulcatum* Murrill was collected by Dr. and Mrs. Pennell, November 22, 1919, on a trunk of *Sabal Palmetto* on the Isle of Palms, Charleston County, South Carolina. Several large specimens were seen at the time, similar to one brought in from the same locality in February, 1916, by Dr. Small. This species was described in 1902 from specimens collected in Florida by Mr. C. G. Lloyd. It seems to be confined to the palmetto and is known only from Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina. Mr. W. H. Long found it several times in Florida. The single Georgia collection was made by Mr. R. M. Harper in 1903 near Thalmann, in Glynn County.

The nematode disease of wheat in Virginia is treated by F. D. Fromme in Bulletin 222 of the Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station under date of August, 1919. This disease is already widespread in the state, being known from 33 counties. Its presence may be recognized by the wrinkling and distortion of the leaves of the young wheat plants, by the abnormal appearance of the heads, and by the occurrence of hard, brown galls in the heads in place of the grains of wheat. It may be prevented by the use of clean seed and crop rotation.

ERGOT ON PASPALUM

Last fall, especially during the latter part of October, ergoty *Paspalum* was extremely common in the vicinity of Fayetteville, Arkansas. Specimens were also received from other localities in the state. The grayish-white sclerotia corresponded to the descriptions of these bodies on this host genus. However, it was not ascertained whether the fungus was *Claviceps Paspali* Stevens & Hall or *C. Rolfsii* Stevens & Hall. Dr. F. L. Stevens, in correspondence, writes that it is necessary to germinate the sclerotia in order to determine the species of *Claviceps* involved; apparently the sclerotia of the two species are very similar and the differences between the two species are only to be observed in the fruiting heads which bear the asci.

Stevens and Hall (Bot. Gaz. **50**: 460. 1910) list two species of *Paspalum* as hosts for these fungi, *P. laeve* and *P. dilatatum*. Brown and Ranck (Miss. Agr. Exp. Sta. Bul. 6, 1915) added *P. distichum*. *P. laeve* was very commonly infected in this region and also *Paspalum floridanum* Michx., a host species not previously reported, was found to bear similar sclerotia. It is interesting to note that attacked spikelets fall with the pedicels attached to them, in contrast to the fall of normal spikelets in which the pedicels remain attached to the rachis.

H. R. ROSEN.

FUNGI FROM HEDGCOCK

A number of boxes of polypores collected by Hedgcock, Long, Humphrey, Weir, Hartley, and others, in various parts of the United States were sent in some time ago from the Division of Forest Pathology for identification and verification, and duplicates were added to our herbarium. The collection contained many interesting specimens. A partial report follows:

Fomes putearius Weir from the Northwest, on *Abies, Picea, Pinus,* etc. Compare *Fomes spongiosus* of Europe.

Funalia stuppea from various localities, chiefly on *Populus.*

Hapalopilus gilvus from California, on oak.

Hapalopilus licnoides from Georgia, on bald cypress. This may be what was recently reported as *Fomes torulosus.*

Inonotus dryadeus from Washington, on *Tsuga heterophylla.* This was collected several times by Humphrey. I have it also from Oregon on this host and on *Abies grandis.* It is difficult to believe until one has seen the specimens that this oak-loving species occurs on conifers.

Inonotus dryophilus from Arizona, on *Populus.*

Pyropolyporus Bakeri from Texas, on oak.

Spongipellis borealis from Vermont, on sugar maple.

Spongipellis fragilis from Pike's Peak, Colorado, 11,000 ft. elevation, on *Pinus flexilis.*

Trametes Morganii? of Lloyd from Maryland, on *Liriodendron.*

Trametes robiniophila? from Texas, on oak. The specimen is old and discolored.

Tyromyces guttulatus from Idaho, on *Pinus Murrayana.*

W. A. MURRILL.

COLLECTING FUNGI AT YAMA FARMS

Yama Farms is a vast tract of virgin land lying twenty miles due west of Poughkeepsie among the foothills of the Catskill Mountains. It is a beautiful natural asylum for wild life of all kinds and will doubtless remain so for many years to come. Authors, musicians, artists, naturalists, and other lovers of nature from all parts of the country find their way to this quiet resting-place at every season of the year and return to their homes greatly refreshed and more deeply impressed with the abundance and charm of nature's offerings.

On November 7, 1919, I went up to Yama in company with Mr. H. I. Miller and the following day we covered about one hundred miles by motor, visiting the most inviting localities and collecting all the larger fungi to be found. Beginning at Jenny Brook, famous for its trout, we worked southward past Ellenville and into the hills to the west before noon. In the afternoon, we drove twenty-eight miles in a northwesterly direction up the valley of Lackawack Creek and turned northward through a virgin forest lying in the edge of Sullivan County. Here among the hemlocks, yellow birch, beech, and other characteristic Catskill and Adirondack trees we found a rich collecting ground and obtained many interesting specimens. At the height of the collecting season, this would be a veritable paradise for mycologists.

The trip was not without interest, also, to the botanist of less specialized tastes; for mosses, ferns, rhododendron, and kalmia covered the rocks and banks everywhere, while climbing bittersweet and holly brightened the swamps and hedgerows with their orange and scarlet berries.

The result of our day's collecting can hardly be given in a brief article. Mr. Miller and I went through the specimens and named and listed them systematically, recording nearly a hundred distinct species. Of course, most of the fleshy forms had been killed by the heavy frosts, but we obtained enough of these for luncheon next day, when twenty-three guests were served from a dish consisting chiefly of *Hypholoma perplexum, Pleurotus ostreatus, Pleurotus serotinus,* and *Collybia velutipes.*

The two species of *Pleurotus* were found mostly on sugar maple trees along the roads, while the *Collybia* grew on fence posts and stumps. *Pleurotus serotinus* can not be recommended, owing to its slimy character, but we were compelled to use it as a "filler."

Among discoveries of special scientific interest, I might mention *Spongipellis fragilis* and *Fomitiporia tsugina,* on hemlock; *Polyporus admirabilis* and *Coriolellus malicola,* on apple; *Daedalea quercina,* on butternut; *Fomes ungulatus,* on a chestnut stump; and *Pyropolyporus igniarius* and *Spongipellis galactinus,* abundant in apple orchards. Two or three new species were probably discovered, among them a beautiful clustered *Stropharia.*

The affinities of the fungi found are with those of the Catskill region, which was visited by the author in August, 1916. For a list of the species collected at that time in the vicinity of Arkville, see *Mycologia* for November, 1916.

I am deeply indebted to Mr. Seaman, Mr. Miller, and Mrs. Sarre for this opportunity of visiting Yama Farms and enjoying its hospitality and natural treasures.

W. A. MURRILL.

MEETING OF THE CANADIAN BRANCH OF THE AMERICAN PHYTOPATHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

The first annual meeting of the Canadian Branch of the American Phytopathological Society was held at the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, Ontario, December 11th and 12th.

Canadian Phytopathologists were well represented at this meeting. Among those taking active part in the proceedings were: Dr. A. H. R. Buller, University of Manitoba; Dr. J. H. Faull, Toronto University; Mr. P. A. Murphy, Dominion Laboratory of

Plant Pathology, Charlottetown, P. E. I.; Mr. W. H. Rankin, St. Catharines; Mr. W. P. Fraser, Saskatoon, Sask.; R. J. Blair, Forest Products Laboratories, Montreal; Mr. F. L. Drayton, Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa; Professor L. Caesar, Professor J. E. Howitt and Dr. R. E. Stone, Ontario Agricultural College.

The President, Professor J. E. Howitt, in his address dealt with what should be the aims of this Society. These, briefly summarized, are as follows:

First—To provide adequate facilities for the training of research men in Plant Pathology in Canada.

Second—To make provision for the publication in Canada of the results of scientific investigations in Plant Pathology not of interest to the general public.

Third—To make available to the general public the practical application of results obtained from scientific research in Plant Pathology.

Fourth—The unification of recommendations made by the various pathologists regarding the control of the more common diseases.

Fifth—The carrying out of a plant disease survey to secure information concerning the financial losses caused by disease to Agriculture and Forestry and the distribution of plant diseases throughout Canada.

Sixth—The adoption of a standard of qualifications required of men entering the field of Plant Pathology in Canada.

Seventh—The appointment of an advisory board to confer with the Federal and Provincial authorities regarding plant quarantine and other restrictive legislation.

Eighth—The maintaining of a bibliography of Canadian Plant Pathology.

Dr. E. C. Stakman of the University of Minnesota was a guest of the Canadian Branch and dealt with the Cereal Rust problems in the United States and Canada.

The papers on the following programs were given at this meeting:

PROGRAM

President's address	J. E. Howitt
Health and Disease in Plants	F. L. Drayton
Decay in the Timber of Pulp and Paper Mill Roofs... (Illustrated with lantern slides.)	R. J. Blair
Butt Rots of the Balsam Fir in Quebec Province	W. H. Rankin
Leaf Blight of the White Pine	J. H. Faull
Pseudorhiza of Certain Saprophytic and Parasitic Agaricinae. (Illustrated.)	A. H. R. Buller

EVENING PROGRAM

Address of Welcome	President G. C. Creelman
Address	Dr. E. C. Stakman
Education of Plant Pathologists. Discussion led by	Dr. J. H. Faull

PROGRAM

Witches'-Broom of the Canada Balsam and the alternate hosts of the causal organism	R. E. Stone
Some comparative observations upon the shape of Basidia and Method of spore Discharge in the Uredineae and Hymenomycetes. (Illustrated with models and lantern slides.)	A. H. R. Buller
Smut of Western Rye Grass	W. P. Fraser
Address	E. C. Stakman
Some observations made in inspecting for Leaf Roll and Mosaic of Potatoes	J. E. Howitt
New or Little-known diseases of potatoes which cause the running out of seed	P. A. Murphy
Breeding Beans for Disease Resistance	G. P. McRostie
Combination sprays for Apple and Potato. (By title.)	G. E. Sanders
Some Data on Peach Yellows and Little Peach	L. Caesar
Fungi New to Ontario	A. W. McCallum
Some Fungi and Plant Diseases comparatively new to Ontario	R. E. Stone and J. E. Howitt

The following officers were elected for 1920: President, Dr. A. H. R. Buller; Vice-President, Dr. J. H. Faull; Secretary-Treasurer, Dr. R. E. Stone.

Additional Members of the Council: Professor J. E. Howitt and Mr. F. L. Drayton.

R. E. STONE

TRAMETES SERPENS

This species was first described by Fries in 1818 under *Polyporus,* then transferred to *Daedalea* in 1821, and finally to *Trametes* in 1874. In the "Systema," the following description of it appears:

> "D. *serpens,* effusa, suberoso-tenuis, confluens, ligneo-pallens, margine villoso, poris magnis inaequalibus.
>
> "Color D. quercinae. Margo tenuis, pubescens. Sinulorum dissepimenta crassa. Inter corticis rimas per lineas elongatas seriatas & confluentes serpit. *Ad truncos Quercus mortuos, sed non prostratos!*"

This description was well supplemented by Fries in his Icon. *pl. 192, f. 3,* which shows the characteristic, large, unequal pores, over 1 mm. in diameter. The spores are said to be ovoid, hyaline, $14 \times 6 \mu$, and no mention is made of setae. I have examined specimens in the various European herbaria and have in the collection here an excellent specimen from Bristol, England, sent by Massee. The conclusion I reached at Upsala in 1906 was: "All the *Trametes serpens* found in Europe is entirely different from what goes by this name in America. The pores are larger and are all different."

When collecting in Cuba, I found the American plant very abundant, and it is surprising that it does not appear prominently in the list of Cuban fungi collected by Wright. The only description in this list that seems to fit it is of *Polyporus excurrens* (*Wright 391*), collected once in April on the underside of old logs and described by Berkeley and Curtis as

> "Totus resupinatus, immarginatus, lignicolor; poris mediis subangulatis demum sinuosis, dissepimentis crassiusculis obtusis acie subtiliter tomentosis. Pores 1/60 inch in diameter."

The type of this species was not found by me at Kew, and the brief description alone would hardly justify a positive statement regarding its identity. I have asked Miss Wakefield to look up the type.

In the "Ellis Collection," many specimens are found collected in Florida, where this species seems to be unusually abundant on various kinds of dead deciduous wood. These specimens are sometimes called *Trametes serpens* Fries and sometimes *Polyporus Stephensii* Berk. & Br., an identical European species described from plants collected by Stephens on privet twigs near Bristol, England, in 1847.

The American plant ranges northward into South Carolina and southward to Brazil, showing considerable variation in the size, shape, and obliquity of its tubes, which are always smaller, however, and otherwise distinct from those of the true European *T. serpens.* The following collections I have examined will indicate the distribution:

Ellis & Ev. N. Am. Fungi *1707;* Rav. Fungi Am. *112;* Rav. Fungi Car. **4**: *7;* South Carolina, *Ravenel;* Louisiana, *Langlois 1612, 2512, 2559;* Florida, *Calkins 47, 51, 60, 68, 116, 130, Lloyd 2129, Ravenel, Rolfs 7, Mrs. Russell, Small & Mosier 5407;* Cuba, *Earle 1591, Earle & Murrill 117, 124, 144, 148, 152, 200, 305, 321, 459, 475, 476;* Jamaica, *Earle 469, Murrill & Harris 1020;* Porto Rico, *Stevens 8988;* St. Thomas, *Raunkiaer 180;* Mexico, *Murrill 642, Smith 205;* Colombia, *Baker;* Bolivia, *Bang 2310;* Brazil, *Möller.*

There has come to me recently from the Philippine Islands a specimen named *Elmeriana setulosa* (P. Henn.) Bres., which seems to match very closely our American plant. Another Philippine specimen named *Poria straminea* Bres. does not appear to be distinct from *E. setulosa* except in the obliquity of its tubes. A fine Philippine collection made by Mr. Williams, however, differs from both the above in its much larger and more shallow pores, suggesting in their size the plant with which we began this discussion, but evidently much more American than European in its affinities.

W. A. MURRILL.

THE GENUS PORIA

The name *Poria* was used generically by Dr. John Hill in his "History of Plants," published in 1751, to include certain large pileate species such as *Fomes Laricis* and *Fistulina hepatica.* On page 28, the genus was described as follows:

> "Poria is a genus of Fungus's growing horizontally, but having its underside not formed into lamellae, but full of little holes or pores . . ."

Adanson (Fam. **2**: 10. 1763) based his genus *Poria* on Mich. *pl. 61. f. 2.* 1729, a polynomial and as yet undetermined species, citing *A. porosum* Brown in support of his use of the name. His treatment was similar to that of Hill, since it included only pileate forms.

This historical use of *Poria* was followed until the time of Persoon, who properly established the genus and included in it resupinate species only, without reference to previous usage.

PORIA Pers. Neues Mag. Bot. **1**: 109. 1794

Physisporus Chev. Fl. Par. **1**: 261. 1826.

Hymenophore resupinate, epixylous, perennial, inseparable, rigid; context thin, white; tubes white, becoming stratified after a year or more; spores hyaline.

Type species, *Poria medullapanis* (Jacq.) Pers.

This genus was founded upon three species, *P. medullapanis, P. salicina,* and *P. fimbriata,* the last two of which are generically distinct from the first. *Physisporus* was based on nine species, the first accompanied by the citation of a figure being *P. medullapanis.*

PORIA MEDULLAPANIS (Jacq.) Pers. Neues Mag. Bot. **1**: 109. 1794

Boletus medullapanis Jacq. Misc. Austr. 141. *pl. 11.* 1778.
Polyporus pulchellus Schw. Trans. Amer. Phil. Soc. **4**: 158. 1832.
Polyporus dryinus Berk. & Cooke; Berk. & Curt., Grevillea **6**: 130. 1878.
Poria tomento-cincta Berk. & Rav.; Cooke, Grevillea **15**: 26. 1886.
Poria holoxantha Berk. & Cooke; Cooke, Grevillea **15**; 26. 1886.

Jacquin gave a fairly good and complete description of the plant, with a poor figure. It is no wonder that Fries could not interpret this description, since he had probably never seen the plant. I have seen only one specimen of it from Sweden. Persoon, on the other hand, had a considerable number of specimens in his herbarium and it is to him that we must look for the true idea of the species.

Bresadola saw Persoon's specimens and knew the plant well in its various stages, as found abundantly in central and southern Europe on dead wood of oak, aspen, ash, cherry, olive, etc. He describes it as follows:

> "Species haec, omnium comunissima in Europa media, videtur in Suecia deesse, nam neque in Herbario Friesii, neque in collectione Romell inveni. Perennans est, stratosa, poris angulatis, mediis, integris, saepe obliquis; sporis obovatis, uno apice truncatis, hyalinis, 5–6.5 × 5.5–5 μ, una alterave etiam subangulato-polygonali; hyphis subhymenialibus, 1.5–2 μ."

According to Schroeter, the spores are 4.5 × 3–4 μ and the species occurs on both deciduous and coniferous wood the whole year through. I have not seen specimens taken from coniferous wood either in this country or in Europe.

In America, there has been considerable confusion regarding this species. Schweinitz called it *P. obducens* because it was stratose; Morgan associated it with *P. xantholoma* because it was often yellow; and Ellis named his specimens *P. obducens, P. vulgaris, P. pulchella,* etc., according to the vagaries of Cooke and his other advisers.

And there is more than one good reason for this confusion. When I compared our American specimens with those of Persoon, I could hardly believe they were the same species; and it required a close study of hundreds of specimens from various regions and different hosts to connect up the series satisfactorily. This is often the case, however, with species so widely distributed, since there is every reason for them to vary widely.

I have on the table before me several specimens from Bresadola. The thin forms of one or two years' growth agree perfectly with the types of *P. pulchella* and other large-pored forms found especially on oak in America. A fine collection from Tolland, Colorado, is eminently typical of the European plant. The older, stratose specimens from Bresadola, however, agree with the older specimens found abundantly in New York and New Jersey on fallen branches of various kinds, which in their early stages appear quite distinct from the European forms that I have seen. Morgan describes this young stage as follows:

"P. xantholoma, Schw. Widely effused, closely adnate, even, smooth, dry; the border rather broad, velvety, yellowish. Pores minute, unequal, subrotund, obtuse, pale yellowish.

"Common in woods. Effused often to the extent of many inches or even several feet on the underside of sticks or smaller branches lying somewhat up from the ground and keeping dry. The border is sometimes 'elegantly luteous' and therefore of a deeper yellow than the pores but this is not always the case. The pores at first are pale, maturing into a rich cream-color; they are mostly roundish but vary to oblong and subsinuous; the dissepiments are thick and obtuse; they average .16 mm. in diameter."

A more complete description accompanies a collection made by Overholts on elm logs in Ohio in 1911, which includes both young and old stages:

"Effused, irregular, firm and rigid, perennial, 6–8 mm. thick; margin thin, narrow, adnate, tomentose; hymenium plane or convex, even, white, pallid or yellowish in old specimens, with a slight silky sheen on some specimens; mouths circular, thick-walled, entire; tubes 1–2 mm. long each season, white within; spores elliptical, smooth, hyaline, $4.5–5.5 \times 2.7–4.5\ \mu$."

Allowance must always be made for weathering, exposure to light, obliquity of tubes, condition and character of substratum, etc. If one finds a conspicuous species of Poria on an old, exposed, decorticated locust or chestnut post, it is pretty apt to be this species, which is by no means choice but is very common and widely distributed in America on dead wood of oak, chestnut, black locust, poplar, beech, witch hazel, dogwood, sassafras, maple, mulberry, elm, tulip, ash, and probably other deciduous trees. *P. albo-incarnatus* Pat. & Gaill., from Venezuela, and *P. vitellinulus* P. Karst., from Finland on alder, do not appear to be distinct. Among the great number of collections examined, the following will serve to indicate its distribution in this country.

Ellis & Ev. N. Am. Fungi *503, 3409;* Ellis & Ev. Fungi Columb. *402;* Rav. Fungi Car. 3: *12;* Canada, *Dearness, Macoun 151;* Rocky Mountains, *Macoun 532;* Maine, *Murrill 1787;* New Hampshire, *P. Wilson;* Connecticut, *Underwood;* New York, *Atkinson* (Cornell Univ. Herb. 8254, 8279), *Brown 135, Dodge & Seaver, Fairman, Livingston & Crane, Murrill 2709, Underwood 308, P. Wilson;* New Jersey, *Ellis 3844, P. Wilson;* Pennsylvania, *Banker, Haines & Everhart, Jackson 25, Murrill 1020, 1045, 1070,* *Sumstine 3, 13, 30, 43, 45, 57;* Delaware, *Commons 2294, 2343;* District of Columbia, *Sheldon 73;* Virginia, *Long, Murrill 217, 240, 353;* West Virginia, *Hartley 49, Nuttall;* Ohio, *Fink 54, James, Lloyd 2794, 3135, Morgan 88, 601, Overholts 172, 216;* Kentucky, *McFarland 168;* Illinois, *Calkins;* Indiana, *Underwood, VanHook 2171, 2194, 2436, 2566, 2587, Weir 55;* Tennessee, *Murrill 599;* Michigan, *Kauffman 1;* Montana, *Anderson 130;* Iowa, *Holway, G. W. Wilson, 1, 2, 3, 6;* Colorado, *Bethel, Demetrio, Seaver & Bethel;* Kansas, *Cragin 110, 557;* Arkansas, *Long 19851;* New Mexico, *Hedgcock & Long 9908;* Arizona, *Long 19725, 21373, 21394, 21395;* California, *Johnston 258;* North Carolina, *Murrill, Bartholomew 5661;* South Carolina, *Ravenel;* Georgia, *Ravenel;* Alabama, *Underwood;* Mississippi, *Tracy 185;* Louisiana, *Earle 10, Langlois;* Florida, *Calkins 31, 88, 119, 142, 921, Lloyd 2078, Mrs. Russell;* Cuba, *Britton & Wilson 5463;* Mexico, *Murrill 625, 626, 688, 690, Smith 42;* British Honduras, *Peck.*

W. A. MURRILL.

COLLECTING FUNGI NEAR WASHINGTON

The first two weeks in October, 1919, were spent by the writer in the vicinity of Washington, with excursions to Falls Church, Fairfax Court House, Great Falls, and Mount Vernon in Virginia; and to Baltimore, Reisterstown, and Easton in Maryland. Dr. Howard A. Kelly collected with me one afternoon near Falls Church, securing several specimens of fleshy fungi which he took home and had photographed or painted.

I went with a party of friends over some of the golf links in the suburbs of Washington and found the common field mushroom, the field puffball, the fairy ring mushroom, and a peculiar, large form of *Collybia radicata* which grew only under maple trees. All of these were eaten and enjoyed.

Clitocybe illudens was abundant in oak woods, particularly fine clusters being observed west of Falls Church and near the boat landing at Mount Vernon.

The journey to Easton, located on the Eastern Shore of Maryland over eighty miles from Washington, was especially interesting because Miss Mary E. Banning, a pioneer mycologist of

Maryland, was born in Talbot County. Dr. Kelly is preparing an account of her life and work. Her book of manuscript and drawings is at Albany, having been donated by her to the State Museum about thirty years ago. A list of the species she collected, comprising fourteen that were new, was published by Dr. Peck in his 44th annual report.

A day and night were spent at the home of Dr. Kelly in Baltimore, where Mr. L. C. C. Krieger, a botanical artist of great ability, is busily engaged in preparing illustrations of the fleshy fungi.

W. A. MURRILL.

THREE NEW FUNGI FROM PORTO RICO

The following fungi were collected by me in Porto Rico in 1913, 1914, and 1915, and were given to Mr. Lamkey to study. The descriptions and names were supplied by him.

Microstroma ingaicola Lamkey, sp. nov. Basidia clavate, 16–29 μ long, emerging through stomata in a crowded head; sterigmata minute; spores 4–8, hyaline 2–3 by 6–8 μ.

Producing witches' broom on *Inga laurina*. Mayaguez, Jan. 1914. No. 6711. The witches-brooms produced were large and numerous and quite as conspicuous as the brooms usually present on the hackberry in the states.

Microstroma pithecolobii Lamkey, sp. nov. Basidia clavate, 20–24 μ long, emerging through stomata in a crowded head; sterigmata minute; spores usually 8, hyaline, 2 by 8–10 μ.

Producing white hypophyllous spots on *Pithecolobium saman*. Mayaguez, Dec. 1913. No. 6734. The spots on the lower sides of the leaves were of the appearance of a Ramularia. The host was recently imported into Porto Rico and all of the planting was heavily infected though the fungus was not found on any of the other species of Pithecolobium so common on the island.

Peronoplasmopara portoricensis Lamkey, sp. nov. Conidiophores emerging through stomata, singly or in twos or threes, 80–300 by 5½–11 μ, pseudo-monopodially 3–5 branched, ultimate branches tapering and 9–18 μ long; conidia ellipsoid, hyaline, 14–24 by 16½–28 μ. Oöspores not present.

Forming irregular downy hypophyllous spots on *Melia azedarach*. Guanica, 1914. No. 6852. Florida Adentro No. 7687, 1915. This downy mildew was first collected in very scant quantity, on only a few small leaves near Guanica. The second collection, however, from a distant point on the island was ample, nearly all of the leaves of the tree being mildewed. The fungus is of especial interest since but few of the downy mildews grow on trees.

F. L. Stevens.

An Early American Record of Mushroom Poisoning

There is an early record of mushroom poisoning in the old graveyard at Piscataway, near New Brunswick, New Jersey, which has not, so far as the writer is aware, been brought to the attention of mycologists interested in this matter. The record is in the form of an inscription on a tombstone and reads, as follows:

SPATATERS · VNDER ·
NEATH · THIS · TOMB ·
LIES · 2 · BOYES · THAT ·
LAY · IN · ONE · WOMB ·
THE · ELDEST · WAS · FVLL ·
13 · YEARS · OLD · THE · YON ·
GEST · WAS · V · TWICE ·
TOLD · BY · EATING ·
MVSHROOMS · FOR ·
FOOD · RARE · IN · 1 · $\overset{\text{S}}{\text{DAY}}$ ·
TIME · THEY · POYSEONED ·
WERE · RICHARD · $\overset{\text{AR}}{\text{HOOP}}$
AND · $\overset{\text{L}}{\text{CHARES}}$ · HOOPAR ·
DESESED · AVGVST · ANNO ·
DOM. 1695

The stone is a flat sandstone slab, about two and one-half by five feet in size. It is now badly weathered and promises to become illegible in a few years. The first word is probably intended for " Spectators."

Both the deadly amanita, *Venenarius phalloides,* and the fly agaric, *Venenarius muscarius,* are extremely common in the vicinity of New Brunswick, but while in most localities the former is more abundant, in and around the old graveyard at Piscataway the fly agaric seems to be much commoner than its relative, suggesting that this species was the " food rare " which caused the untimely death of the two unfortunate youths and furnished the inspiration for the unknown epitaph writer.

GEORGE W. MARTIN.